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Oppn terms SC's PMLA verdict 'dangerous', calls for review
In a joint statement on Wednesday, opposition parties termed the Supreme Court's verdict on PMLA "dangerous" and called for a review. The SC had on July 27 upheld the core amendments made to the PMLA, which gives the Centre and the ED unbridled powers of summons, arrest, and raids. | P9



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi (2nd from R) and KPCC chief D K Shivakumar (L) at the 75th birthday bash of ex-CM Siddaramaiah (2nd from L) in Davanagere

Congress united to defeat BJP, RSS in state: Rahul

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Davanagere

CONGRESS leader Rahul Gandhi sounded the poll bugle for 2023 assembly elections at a megaparty event in Davanagere on Wednesday. "Congress party is completely united to defeat the BJP and RSS in Karnataka," declared Rahul, while speaking at the 75th birthday celebrations of former chief minister Siddaramaiah at Shanmukh Palace Grounds on the outskirts of Davanagere.

"The Congress will provide a clean and honest government that will work for the welfare of the people of Karnataka," he said. The senior Congress leader trained his guns on the BJP accusing it of dividing society. Amid reports of a rift between Congress heavyweights Siddaramaiah and KPCC chief D K Shivakumar, Rahul said it was a happy moment for him to see both the leaders hugging each other at the event, which, he said, shows how united the Congress is in Karnataka. P4

EXPRESS READ

Araga: PSI recruitment re-exam soon

BENGALURU: Home Minister Araga Jnanendra said the re-examination to recruit 545 police sub-inspectors (PSI) will be held at the earliest. Speaking to several PSI aspirants on Wednesday, Jnanendra said the CID probe into the PSI exams is not yet completed. P4

Ranganthittu is K'taka's first Ramsar site

BENGALURU: Karnataka got its first Ramsar site on Wednesday, after a wait of over ten years. The Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC) declared Ranganthittu Bird Sanctuary in Mandya as a Ramsar site. This will ensure better conservation of the sanctuary. P7

Data protection bill axed

Big tech won, government lost, says Congress MP Manish Tewari

PREETHA NAIR @ New Delhi

THE Union government on Wednesday withdrew the Personal Data Protection (PDP) Bill 2019 from the Lok Sabha, saying it plans to bring in a comprehensive legislation soon. Union Information and Technology Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said the Joint Committee of Parliament has looked at the bill in detail and made 81 amendments and 12 recommendations towards a comprehensive legal framework on digital ecosystem.

"Considering the JPC report, a



Ashwini Vaishnaw

comprehensive legal framework is being worked out. We will present a new bill that fits into this framework," said Vaishnaw.

The original bill, which was introduced in the Lok Sabha in 2019, had evoked strong protests from Opposition parties and civil

society members who alleged the proposed legislation gave sweeping powers to the government to access personal data of citizens. The bill was later referred to the JPC led by BJP MP P P Chaudhary. Among a slew of recommendations, the panel suggested a single law to deal with both personal and non-personal data.

Cong MP Gaurav Gogoi, who is a member of the JPC, told this paper that he has flagged his main concerns as providing the government with powers to give blanket exemption to its probe agencies from the provisions of Act. P9

Flutter as Cong's Young Indian office is sealed

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ New Delhi

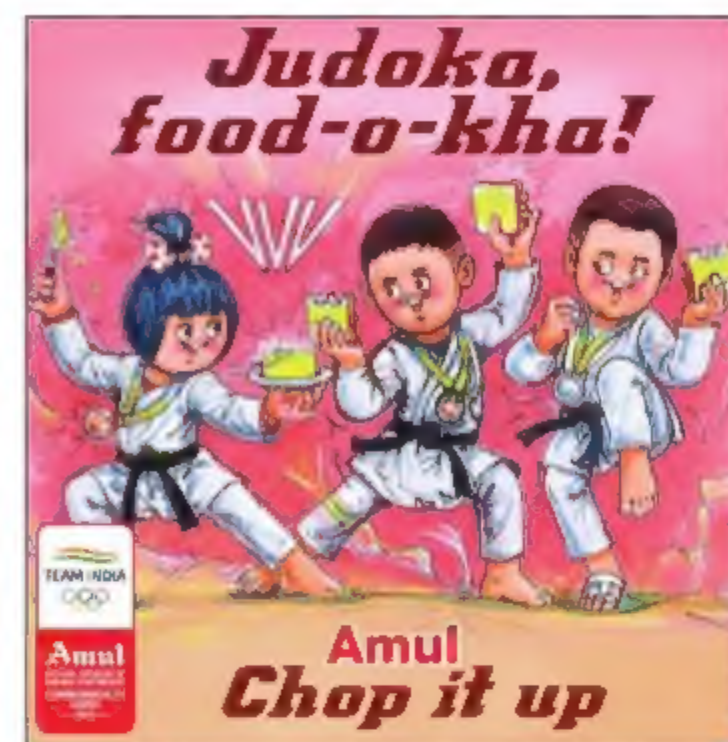
THE Enforcement Directorate on Wednesday temporarily sealed the office of Young Indian Ltd within the premises of National Herald, as part of its action in a money laundering case for which both Congress leaders Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi were previously questioned.

The case pertains to alleged financial irregularities during the acquisition of Associated Journals Ltd (AJL) by the Gandhi-owned Young Indian Ltd in 2010.

The ED action galvanised a section of the Congress leadership to hit back against the

government, since a large police deployment was parallelly noticed at the party's headquarters at 24, Akbar Road and the Gandhis' residences at Janpath Road and Tughlaq Lane. Barricades put up around the Congress office and Sonia and Rahul's residences were later removed.

Reacting to the security cover, Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh tweeted, "Congress is under siege. Delhi Police has surrounded our HQ and homes of INC President and ex-President. This is the worst form of vendetta politics. ...We will continue to raise our voice against injustices and failures of Modi Sarkar!" P9



CM announces ₹500 cr relief fund for rain-affected regions

Bengaluru-Mysuru traffic disrupted

Traffic was disrupted on Bengaluru-Mysuru highway for second day after Maddur lake breached

Vindhyagiri shrine wall collapses

A portion of a wall at Vindhyagiri shrine, where Gomateshwara statue is installed, collapsed due to heavy rain. P7

SUBHASH CHANDRA N S @ Bhatkal

CHIEF Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Wednesday announced a sum of Rs 500 crore as emergency relief fund to rain-affected areas of the state and Rs 50 crore for Uttara Kannada district as compensation and to carry out repair works. The CM made the announcement during his visit to Mutthalli village in Bhatkal where a landslide killed four members of a family on Tuesday.

Accompanied by Revenue Minister R Ashoka, District in-charge Minister Kota Srinivas Pujary, Labour Minister Shivaram Hebbar, Bhatkal MLA Sunil Naik and Deputy Commissioner Mulai Muhilan, the CM was briefed about the situation in the village and the reasons which caused the landslide. Bommai met the family members of the landslide victims and handed over a cheque of Rs 29 lakh to the relatives of the deceased. P7

Shri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister

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Azadi Ka
Amrit Mahotsav

NAVA KARNATAKA
FOR NAVA BHARAT

Shri Basavaraj S. Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister

"Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav - A festival of awakening of the nation and fulfilling the dream of good governance."
- Narendra Modi

Karnataka - At the forefront of the implementation of Amrit Mahotsav Programmes

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav is an initiative of the Government of India to celebrate and commemorate 75 years of progressive India and the glorious history of its people. To celebrate this milestone, the Hon'ble Chief Minister announced several Amritha Programmes on August 15, 2021. Currently, these programmes are successfully implemented in the state.

Progress of various Amritha programmes announced

- Amritha School Infrastructure:** Rs. 74.68 crore released @ Rs. 10 lakh per school for providing infrastructure. Works are in progress.
- Upgrading of Health Infrastructure:** Expansion of the infrastructure of 750 primary health centres. Rs. 150 crore allocated @ Rs. 20 lakh per PHC. 548 works completed till date. 196 works are in progress.
- Amritha Skill Development Training:** Goal to provide skill training to 75,000 youth belonging to SC/ST, Backward and Minority communities in 2 years at a cost of Rs. 112 crore. 60,645 youth trained till date. 12.24 lakh candidates have registered.
- Amritha Farmer Producers Organizations:** To establish 750 Farmer Producers Organizations to encourage the production and marketing of the produce of farmers, weavers and fishermen. Rs. 225 crore grant allocated @ Rs. 30 lakh per FPO for three years. 324 FPOs established.
- Amritha Nirmaala Nagara Scheme:** A financial support of Rs. 75 crore to 75 chosen local bodies @ Rs. 1 crore per local body
- SC/ST, Minorities:** Rs. 9.19 crore grant provided as the first installment of 50% to 108 startups of women entrepreneurs established outside Bengaluru.
- Amritha Sports Adoption Programme:** Rs. 10 lakh training incentive per sportsperson for a total of 75 sportspersons who would be participating in Paris Olympics.

Chief Minister's Amritha Nagarothana Project: Rs. 6,000 crore grant for Bengaluru infrastructure development

Chief Minister's Amritha Nagarothana Scheme (Municipalities): Rs. 3,885 crore grant for the integrated development of small and medium towns

Chief Minister's Grama Panchayat Scheme: Infrastructure development in 750 selected Gram Panchayats. Of the 9,000 works, 6,499 works have been completed. 1,774 works are in progress.

Amritha Rural Housing Scheme: 750 GPs have been identified to provide housing to the homeless in their jurisdictions. The selection of beneficiaries is in progress.

Amritha SHGs Small Enterprises Scheme: Rs. 75 crore seed capital for 7500 women SHGs @ Rs. 1 lakh per SHG. Seed capital has been distributed to 4,362 SHGs till date.

Amritha Community Development Scheme: Students of 750 schools-colleges encouraged to involve in constructive community services. More than 331 toilets constructed in the adopted villages and more than 60,000 saplings planted.

Har Ghar Tiranga
13-15 August 2022

- 'Har Ghar Tiranga' is a campaign under the aegis of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav to encourage people to bring the Tiranga home and to hoist it to mark the 75th year of India's independence between August 13 to August 15.
- The state government is supporting the initiative to hoist one crore flags in the state.

Come, show your patriotism by participating in this movement.

As enshrined in our Constitution, - to safeguard public property and to abjure violence is the fundamental duty of every citizen of India.

karnataka information
Department of Information and Public Relations